

**AIR RESOURCES COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING #147
03/21/05**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Charles Niebling, Linda Thomas
Robert Duval, Raymond Donald, Muriel Lajoie
John MacDonald, Ryan Bielagus

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Chairman Ted Sutton, Robert McLellan, David Collins,

NHDES – ARD PERSONNEL: Robert Scott, Anne Keach, Craig Wright, Barbara Hoffman,
Sheri Eldridge-Banack, Jeffrey Underhill, Pamela Monroe,
Thomas Niejadlik

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

Call to Order:

Vice-Chairman Niebling called Meeting #147 of the Air Resources Council (ARC) to order at 9:05 a.m. on March 21, 2005. Vice-Chairman Niebling announced that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes:

Linda Thomas entered a motion to accept the minutes of meeting #146. John MacDonald seconded the motion. Muriel Lajoie and Raymond Donald abstained. All others were in favor. The minutes of meeting #146 were accepted by the ARC.

Legislative Issues:

Vice-Chairman Niebling introduced Robert Scott, Director of the Air Resources Division (ARD). Mr. Scott outlined the following legislative activities that the Air Resources Division has been involved in during the 2005 Session:

- HB 315 – Relative to Best Available Control Technology (BACT), which seeks to establish specific requirements for facilities combusting non-virgin materials and emit persistent bioaccumulative toxic (PBTs) substances.
- SB 128 – Relative to Emission Reduction Standards as required by the Clean Power Act, which seeks to establish specific caps for mercury as well as establishing a further request to Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions reductions from affected fossil fuel burning power plants in New Hampshire.
- SB 215 – Relative to creating a committee to study banning the incineration of construction and demolition debris.
- SB 213 – Relative to adoption of motor vehicle standards, which seeks to allow the NHDES to adopt new engine emissions standards for light-duty passenger vehicles consistent with those adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), commonly referred to as the Low Emission Vehicle II (LEV II).

Director Scott also provided an overview of the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR). He stated that on March 10, 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), a rule that will achieve reductions in sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) air pollution emissions throughout the eastern United States. Mr. Scott asserted that this action is considered very cost-effective because the health benefits achieved from this rule are more than twenty-five (25) times greater than the pollution control costs. He outlined the CAIR rule as follows:

- CAIR uses a cap and trade program to reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions to help meet air quality standards for ozone or fine particulates.
- CAIR includes two phases of emission reduction deadlines; Phase I in 2009/10 and Phase II in 2015.
- By 2015, the CAIR will result in :
 - Nearly \$100 billion in annual health benefits, annually preventing 17,000 premature deaths, millions of lost work and school days, and tens of thousands of non-fatal heart attacks and hospital admissions.
 - Nearly \$2 billion in annual visibility benefits in southeastern national parks, such as Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah.
 - Significant regional reductions in sulfur and nitrogen deposition, reducing the number of acidic lakes and streams in the eastern United States.
- CAIR includes twenty-eight (28) eastern states and the District of Columbia
- CAIR Implementation Timeline:
 - 2005 -Promulgate CAIR
 - 2006 -State Implementation Plans Due
 - 2009-Phase I Cap in place for NO_x
 - 2010-Phase I Cap in place for SO₂
 - 2015-Phase II in place for NO_x and SO₂

Other Business:

Vice-Chairman Niebling noted that Env-A 4100, the Consumer Products rule which was tabled at the January 24th meeting was to be formally presented at this meeting. Sheri Eldridge-Banack of the Stationary Source Management Bureau reported that Env-A 4100 will be ready for presentation at the May 16th meeting of the ARC.

Director Scott stated that the Department of Environmental Services' mission includes protecting the environment and public health. Director Scott asserted that he intends to speak with Dr. Robert McLellan to recommend forming a panel of health care experts to discuss environmental impacts on public health.

Adjourn:

Having no further business to discuss, Raymond Donald entered a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Niebling seconded the motion. All members present were in favor. Meeting #147 of the ARC adjourned at 9:35 a.m. on March 21, 2005.